

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PROP, CSCE, CZ
SUBJECT: CZECHOSLOVAK MEDIA ATTACK OLD FOES

1. SUMMARY: TWO VITRIOLIC ARTICLES IN RUDE PRAVO
JUNE 17 AND 19 SUGGEST THAT CZECHOSLOVAK MEDIA HAVE
BEEN ORDERED TO START THE IDEOLOGICAL OFFENSIVE WHICH
SHOULD CULMINATE IN AUGUST, THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF
1968 INVASION. ARTICLES MAY HERALD THE START OF A
MEDIA CAMPAIGN AGAINST FOREIGN AGENTS, TUNED TO
CURRENT EVENTS IN MOSCOW AND THE TRIAL IN KALUGA.
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END SUMMARY.

2. MORE IMPRTANT OF TWO ARTICLES, BY VACLAV DELOZAL
IN JUNE 17 RUDE PRAGO, CHARGES THAT IN JULY 1968 THE
DUBCEK-CERNIK LEADERSHIP LAID PLANS TO INSTITUTE CON-
CENTRATION CAMPS FOR THE REEDUCATION OF "CONSERVATIVE"
COMMUNISTS. CITING A DOCUMENT SIGNED BY DR. BOHUMIL

HAVEL OF FORMER PREMIER OLDRICH CERNIK'S SECRETARIAT, DELEZAL CHARGES THAT THEN-INTERIOR MINISTER PAVEL AND CC DEPARTMENT CHIEF GENERAL PRCHLIK "WORKED OUT AN OPTION OR A RULING CENTER TO TAKE OVER ALL POWER IN THE COUNTRY IN THE FACE OF HEIGHTENED POLITICAL TENSIONS." THE RULING CENTER WAS TO HAVE BEEN COMPRISED OF DUBCEK, SMRKOVSKY, PAVEL AND CERNIK, RUDE PRAGO ALLEGES.

3. THE SAME ARTICLE CHARGES THAT, WHILE PLANNING TO STOP JAMMING AND DISMANTLE THE JAMMING SYSTEM, THE DUBCEK LEADERSHIP WAS OBLIVIOUS TO FOREIGN ESPIONAGE AND SUBVERSION. ACCORDING TO DELEZAL, "A SPECIAL GROUP OF AMERICAN "SILENT KILLERS" FROM VIETNAM, A "GREEN BERET" SQUAD TRAINED FOR THE CZECHOSLOVAK EVENTS WITH THE U.S. 10TH SPECIAL STRIKE FORCE AT BAD TOELZ, GERMANY, MADE ITS WAY TO THE CSSR." CITING DER SPIEGEL AS HIS SOURCE, DELEZAL MAINTAINS THAT 400,000 WEST GERMAN SPIES WERE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1968.

4. DOLEZAL EXPLAINS TO HIS READERS THAT RIGHT-WING AND ANTI-COMMUNIST FORCES HAD GAINED A BEACH-HEAD IN THE PARTY ACCORDING TO A CIA SCHEME MASTERMINDED BY "SLY OLD CIA AGENT PAVEL TIGRID." THESE RIGHT-WING PARTY MEMBERS WERE, DOLEZAL CONCLUDES, " THE HOTBED FROM WHICH GREW THE FUNGUS OF COUNTER-REVOLUTION THAT THREATENED TO CHOKE THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC TO DEATH." LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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5. A LESS MYCOLOGICALLY-MINDED ARTICLE IN RUDE PRAVO JUNE 19 MARKS THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EXECUTION OF THE ROSENBERGS, CHARACTERIZING THAT EVENT AS "A PREMEDITATED JUDICIAL MURDER." IT CITES AN ARTICLE IN WORLD MAGAZINE (SIC) ALLEGING THAT "THE CIA INTENDED TO USE THE ROSENBERGS IN PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE DESIGNED TO SPLIT THE WORLD COMMUNIST MOVEMENT --A PLAN WHICH HAS BEEN PUT INTO EFFECT FOR SEVERAL YEARS NOW AS A PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE COMPONENT OF THE ANTI-COMMUNIST CAMPAIGN OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND NEWS MEDIA".

6. COMMENT: IT COMES AS NO SURPRISE THAT THE CZECHOSLOVAK MEDIA HAVE GONE ON THE OFFENSIVE AS THE ANNIVERSARY OF AUGUST APPROACHES. THE NEW ELEMENT IN THE MIX (ABSENT FROM THE RUDE PRAVO BLAST MAY 20 MARKING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE MAY 1968 CC PLENUM) IS THE LINKING OF DUBCEK, CERNIK AND OTHERS TO THE CIA. THE ACCUSATION THAT AMERICAN "SILENT KILLERS" ENTERED CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS NOT NEW, BUT SOME DETAILS MAY HAVE BEEN ADDED. PERHAPS MOST INTERESTING IS THAT ARTICLE IS SIGNED BY VACLAV

DOLEZAL, THOUGHT TO BE A PEN NAME ATTACHED TO
ARTICLES MEANT TO BE TAKEN AS ESPECIALLY AUTHORITATIVE.

7. THE THREAT FROM FOREIGN ENEMIES IS AN ANCIENT
THEME OF COMMUNIST REGIMES, BUT WE THINK THAT THESE
ARTICLES ARE FURTHER PROOF THAT THE REGIME GENUINELY
FEARS ATTEMPTS BY FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC CRITICS TO USE
10TH ANNIVERSARY OF AUGUST 1968 TO CAUSE UNREST HERE.
WE EXPECT BOTH AN ESCALATING MEDIA "VIGILANCE" CAMPAIGN
AND INCREASED POLICE SURVEILLANCE AND HARASSMENT OF
DOMESTIC DISSIDENTS AND WESTERN DIPLOMATS AND VISITORS.

8. DECONTROL AFTER FOUR YEARS.

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